

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CONAKR 00083 171644Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 MCT-01
SY-05 USSS-00 AID-05 /065 W
-----171648Z 067893 /40

P R 171505Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2667
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 0083

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PINS PORG GV DM
SUBJECT: GUINEAN REACTION TO ATTEMPTED BENIN COUP

1. PRESIDENT TOURE REACTED TO BENIN COUP ATTEMPT WITH

-- AN APPEAL TO ALL AFRICAN CHIEFS OF STATE AND OAU
URGING CONDEMNATION OF "CRIMINAL ACTION" BY "IMPERIALISTS"
AGAINST BENIN AND "IMMEDIATE AND EFFICACIOUS ASSISTANCE" TO GOB;

-- A RADIO DECLARATION INVITING ALL AFRICA TO AID BENIN
AND NOTING GUINEA'S "RIGHT AND DUTY TO INTERVENE IMMEDIATELY WITH
ARMED FORCES ALONGSIDE BENIN'S REVOLUTIONARY FORCES."

2. TOURE TERMED ATTEMPTED COUP AS "IGNOBLE AGGRESSION COMMITTED
BY IMPERIALIST MERCENARY TROOPS RECRUITED IN EUROPE, AMERICA AND
AFRICA." HE DID NOT BLAME, AT LEAST INITIALLY, ANY WESTERN COUNTRY
BY NAME.

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3. MEANWHILE, GUINEAN AUTHORITIES JUMPILY REINFORCED DOMESTIC
VIGILANCE. CONAKRY RADIO "VOICE OF THE REVOLUTION" BROADCAST TWO
"LETTERS FROM FRIENDS" WHICH, AFTER RELATIVE LULL OF PAST MONTHS,
RESURRECTED CHARGES THAT "IMPERIALISM" IS CONFECTING ASSULTS AGAINST
GUINEA FROM IVORY COAST AND SENEGAL TO ACCOMPANY BENIN EVENTS.
"LETTERS" ALLEGED THAT "ANTI-GUINEANS" IN IVORY COAST ABETTED BY
"EUROPEAN, AMERICAN, SOUTH AFRICAN AND ISRAELI MERCENARIES"

HAVE BEEN PLOTTING AN INVASION OF GUINEA BY SUBMARINE IN LATE JANUARY AFTER WHICH THEY WOULD WAGE GUERILLA WAR IN GUINEA'S NORTHERN PROVINCES.

SENGHOR ALLEGED TO HAVE PLOTTED WITH ISRAELIS VIA SOCIALIST SECOND INTERNATIONAL TO "LIQUIDATE" GUINEAN REVOLUTION; ISRAELI, SOUTH AFRICAN AND WEST GERMAN MERCENARIES ALLEGED TO BE ACTIVE IN TRAINING ANTI-GUINEANS IN SENEGAL. VOR AVERRED PLOTS WILL FAIL, AND HOUPHOUET AND SENGHOR WILL BE THROWN INTO "GARBAGE CAN OF HISTORY." ROADBLOCKS MANNED BY GUINEAN ARMY TROOPS WENT UP NIGHT OF JANUARY 16.

4. EMBASSY NOTED APPARENT GOG PREPARATIONS TO FLY ABOUT 200 GUINEAN SOLDIERS TO BENIN AFTERNOON OF JANUARY 16. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER ANY FLIGHTS ACTUALLY DEPARTED, AND IT MAY BE THAT PLAN ABORTED WHEN COUP WAS SEEN TO FAIL.

5. COMMENT: BENIN EVENTS WILL LIKELY FEED TOURE'S SUSPICIONS AND, UNFORTUNATELY, LEND PUBLIC CREDENCE TO HIS MOSTLY FANTASTIC CLAIMS OF PLOTTING AGAINST GUINEA AND OTHER RADICAL AFRICAN REGIMES. QUESTION IS, TO WHAT EXTENT TOURE WILL CHOSE TO AFFIX BLAME SPECIFICALLY AGAINST INDIVIDUAL WESTERN GOVERNMENTS HERE AND TO TIGHTEN SCREWS INTERNALLY AGAINST FURTHER REAL OR IMAGINED OPPONENTS.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 17-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
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